

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SCA-01  
EB-08 CU-02 BIB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4247  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
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AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
USMISSION USBERLIN UNN  
USMISSION USNATO

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E.O.11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR, GE, PL  
SUBJECT: NEUES DEUTSCHLAND COMMENTS ON HONECKER/GIEREK MEETING

REF: WARSAW 1452

1. IN A NEUES DEUTSCHLAND (ND) EDITORIAL MARCH 4,  
THE GDR HAS PRAISED THE RESULTS OF THE RECENT  
HONECKER/GIEREK MEETING I WARSAW. THE EDITORIAL  
EMPHASIZES THAT THE IME HAS COME TO LEND A NEW  
FRAMEWORK TO GDR/POLISH RELATIONS IN A NEW TREATY  
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OF FRIENDSHIP, COOPERATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE  
TO BE SIGNED THIS YEAR.

2. THE ND COMMENTARY CITES EXAMPLES OF THE  
"BROAD AND SECURE FOUNDATION" OF POLISH:GDR RELATIONS,  
INCLUDING VISA-FREE TRAVEL WHICH HAS LED TO OVER  
65 MILLIONVISITS BACK AND FORTH DURING THE PAST

FIVE YEARS, AND TIES BETWEEN MORE THAN 80,000 FACTORIES, INSTITUTIONS, AND SCHOOLS IN THE TWO COUNTRIES. ND NOTES THAT FOR AN OUTSIDE OBSERVER, THE CURRENT STATE OF GDR/POLISH TIES MUST SEEM A "WONDER" GIVEN THE CRIMES COMMITTED AGAINST THE POLISH PEOPLE BY HITLER (NOT GERMAN) FASCISM IN THE RECENT PAST. ND POINTS TO THE UPCOMING FESTIVAL OF GDR/POLISH YOUTH SCHEDULE FOR MAY 28-30 AS AN EVENT THAT WILL DRAW THE TWO COUNTRIES STILL CLOSER TOGETHER.

3. WHILE STATING THAT HONECEKR AND GIEREK CAME OUT FOR A CONTINUATION OF DENTE ON THE BASIS OF HELSINKI, THE ND EDITORIAL ARGUES THAT THE FORCES OF "REACTION, MILITARISM, REVANCHISM AND NEO-NAZISM" ARE ON THE RISE IN CERTAIN IMPERIALIST STATES. ND WARNS THAT THESE FORCES ATTEMPT TO CREATE CONFLICT SITUATIONS, SPUR ON ARMAMENT, AND USE OF HELSINKI FINAL ACT TO MIX IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. IT REPEATS THE FAMILIAR REFRAIN THAT IF HELSINKI IS TO BE FULFILLED, THE PRINCIPLES OF RESPECT FOR SOVEREIGNTY AND NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS MUST BE STRICTLY OBSERVED.

4. THE MARCH 4 EDITION OF ND ALSO CONTAINS EXTENSIVE QUOTES FROM COMMENTARIES IN TRYBUNA LUDU AND ZYCIE WARSZAWY ON THE HONECKER VISIT.

5. COMMENT: HONECEKR'S WARSAW VISIT COMES ON THE HEELS OF HIS RECENT TRIPS TO BELGRADE JAN 12 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND BUCHAREST FEB 4. LOCAL OBSERVERS SPECULATE THAT CSCE AND COORDINATION FOR BELGRADE WERE DISCUSSED DURING THESE VISITS AND BELIEVE HONECKER REPORTS ON THE STATE OF FRG/GDR RELATIONS IN AN INFORMATIONAL SENSE. FURTHER TOPICS ARE LESS CLEARLY DEFINED, ALTHOUGH IT CAN BE GENERALLY ASSUMED THESE ARE FOCUSED UPON BILATERAL MATTERS.

6. IN ADDITION TO REFLECTING A MORE ACTIVE HONECKER ROLE IN GDR FOREIGN AFFAIRS SINCE BEING NAMED CHAIRMAN OF THE GDR COUNCIL OF STATE IN OCTOBER 1976, THESE VISITS AMOUNT TO AN ACTIVE ATTEMPT BY THE GDR TO DEEPEN ITS TIES WITH ITS EASTERN NEIGHBORS AT A TIME OF STAGNATION AND TENSION IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE FRG. THE NEGOTIATIONS OF A NEW POLISH-GDR TREATY FOLLOWS THE RENEGOTIATION OF THE GDR/SOVIET TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP IN 1975 AND APPEARS TO BE A FURTHER CEMENTING OF GDR TIES WITH ITS EASTERN NEIGHBORS.

POLANSKY

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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